

Robert E. Fox

Clovis Unified School District Governing Board

Candidate Questionnaire

1. Why do you want to be a member of the Governing Board of the Clovis Unified School District?

I want to be a member of the Governing Board of the Clovis Unified School District in order to demonstrate my deep appreciation of how the lives of our five children were impacted by the quality of the education they received. Our family moved to Clovis in 1980 when Rachel, our oldest child, entered Kindergarten. We moved in part because we knew the value that education plays in the achievement of success and were convinced that the Clovis Unified School District would provide them with quality educations. Our children were given the tools required to achieve whatever they chose to undertake. Therefore, I would like to lend my support as a Governing Board member to ensure that all children in our community now and in the future will be afforded the same excellent opportunities our children received.

2. Do you have children who previously attended or are currently attending schools within Clovis Unified School District?

Yes. All five of our children attended schools within the Clovis Unified School District. Our oldest daughter, Rachel, graduated from Clovis High School and taught at Buchanan High School, Clovis East High School, and CART after completing her student teaching requirements at Buchanan High School. Lindsay was in the first class to graduate from Buchanan High School and Benjamin followed her there. Both were outstanding athletes as exemplified by them receiving the coveted Bear Award. Additionally, Benjamin placed second at both the State and National Wrestling competitions as a heavyweight. Jonathon graduated from Clovis High School and Robert graduated from Gateway High School. Moreover, five of our seven grandchildren attend Clovis Unified Schools. The other two will attend when they are old enough.

3. Do you have experience serving on a school district governing board or school committees or participating in any school activities in Fresno County, California? Please list such prior experience including the name of each organization, your role and function, and the period in which you served or participated in such board, committees, or school activities.

Yes. I have had extensive experience serving on the board of a charter school, school committees, and participating in educational activities in Fresno County, California. I have also served on a statewide basis as a member of visiting teams for the WASC Accrediting Commission for Schools. Listed below is a partial list of my experiences and the approximate times I served:

- Clovis Unified School District Diversity Committee Member, 1980-82

- Clovis Unified School District Intercultural Advisory Committee Member, 1982-83
- Clovis Unified School Tax Committee Member, 1988
- Clovis Unified School District Naming (Clovis East) Committee Member, 1999
- Buchanan High School Foundation Board Member, 1992
- Clovis Unified School District Counseling Review Committee Member, 1995
- Fresno Urban Conservation Corps Board Member, 1990-2006
- Fresno CORAL Board, Board Chair, 1990-2006
- Big Picture Academy Board, Vice Chair, 2009-Present
- Fresno Unified School District Superintendent's Early Learning Task Force Member, 2011
- Fresno County Department of Education, Charter Review Committee Member, 1995-2000

4. Describe any other community or business activities in which you have participated recently within Fresno County. Describe your role and functions, the period in which you served or participated in such activities.

During my tenure as Acting Vice Chancellor of Educational Services and Institutional Effectiveness at State Center Community College District, I Co-Chaired the High-Speed Rail Educational Planning Task Force with the Dean of the College of Engineering at California State University, Fresno. The group was charged with coordinating the resources and ambitions of a disparate group of unions, CSU's, community colleges, and state and local agencies in order to develop a "plan to plan" for the training of workers capable of working at all levels during the installation of the high speed rail system.

Although we were successful in developing a document of merit, it was not funded, but it still serves as an outstanding example of diplomacy, cooperation, and innovation for the planning of intersegmental initiatives in the future.

5. What do you see as the basic purposes of the public schools of Clovis Unified School District?

The basic purposes of the Clovis Unified School District are to provide "a quality educational system that meets the academic, physical, and social needs of our students and inspire them to greater success." That success not only involves the ability to make a living as skilled workers, technicians, and professionals, but to make a life in which they are prepared to assist in making the community and beyond a better place in which to live through service to others, participation in the democratic process, life-long learning, and resilience.

6. What is the role of the Clovis Unified School District Governing Board in the fulfillment of the purposes that you have stated in response to the previous question?

The role of the CUSD Governing Board is to serve as the citizen oversight body of the district and in doing so ensure that "the school district adheres to the values and beliefs and priorities of our community. According to the California School Boards Association, Boards fulfill this goal by doing the following:

- Setting direction
- Establishing an effective and efficient structure

- Providing support
- Ensuring accountability
- Providing community leadership as an advocate for children, the school district, and public schools

In addition, I would add the responsibility to recognize and reward exemplary performance.

7. Describe what your role would be as a Board member on the Clovis Unified School District Governing Board.

My role as Board member on the Clovis Unified School District Governing Board would be to work effectively with the other members and the Superintendent to achieve the vision and mission of the district. In order to accomplish this, I must commit to learning, preparation, and respectful collaboration. I would make every effort to maintain student learning achievement as my guiding principle. Moreover, the successful accomplishment of my charge as a Board member would require adherence to high standards of confidentiality, advocacy for public education, maintain high standards of deportment and the ability to differentiate between my role as a trustee and those of staff and the Superintendent. I will attend all meetings and be prepared to participate.

8. Do you have any relatives who are currently employed with Clovis Unified School District? If yes, please explain.

No. I do not have any relatives who are currently employed by the Clovis Unified School District.

9. Since turning 18 years of age, have you ever been convicted or pled guilty or no contest to a felony? If yes, please explain.

I have never been convicted or pled guilty or no contest to a felony.

10. Would you agree to voluntarily submit to a criminal background check, including fingerprinting?

Yes. I would agree to voluntarily submit to a criminal background check, including fingerprinting.

11. If you are appointed to the Governing Board, would you uphold the laws of the State of California?

If appointed to the Governing Board I would uphold the laws of the State of California and the United States of America.